

Licensure Unit Management Meeting
July 6, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
Nebraska State Office Building
LU First Floor Conference Room

Website Updates

- The updated copy of the Licensure Unit (LU) Home Page website with the revised listings will be given to Beth Sorensen, Staff Assistant with Support Services, to make changes and post to the LU Website.

2016 Legislative Concept Papers

- Concepts for legislative changes in 2016 are to be submitted to the LU Administrator by Monday, July 13, 2015, with the name/description of the statute and justification for the revision.

Court Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage

- The Licensure Unit will accept marriage certificates of same-sex couples for name changes on credentials as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court decision to allow same-sex marriages in all states.

Program Updates

- Program Managers shared the following information related to their respective program areas:
Matt Gelvin, Research, Policy, Quality Improvement & Compliance Monitoring, is coordinating Policy Reviews for Professions and Occupations and will send a few policy reviews each month for discussion at the Monthly Professions and Occupations Credentialing Meeting.
The Public Hearing for Surgical First Assistants will be held on Wednesday, July 8, 2015.
Diana Meyer, Acute Health Care Facilities, reported that Nebraska has completed the annual Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Patient Safety Initiative Survey that is due September 2015.
Eve Lewis, Long Term Care Facilities, stated that all four Deseret nursing homes, Ainsworth, Lyons, Edgar, and Exeter are officially closed.
CMS surveys on facilities are being completed.
The Program Area has five open positions, with one position filled and interviews soon to be conducted for four others.
Karen Bowen, Nursing & Nursing Support, shared that the program area is implementing two bills that passed during the last Legislative Session, LB 107 (Elimination of Integrated Practice Agreements) and LB 129 (Criminal Background Checks for Initial Nursing Licenses).
LPN renewals will begin in August 2015.
The Program Area has two vacant positions, Health Licensing Coordinator and Health Licensing Specialist. Interviews will be conducted in the near future.
René Tiedt, Rehabilitation & Community Services, related that Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board Members will be conducting meetings across the state for discussion and input from communities on EMS improvements needed.

Heidi Burklund, Support Services, and the LU Administrator will be interviewing for the IT Business Systems Analyst Position soon.

Pat Roberts is training on the process for ordering supplies and will be processing orders in the future and incorporating a notification system to communicate with Program Managers regarding progress of orders.

Kathie Lueke, Medical & Specialized Health, and staff are working to provide input on regulation revisions for Pharmacy Professionals and Facilities.

Pam Kerns, Outpatient & In-Home Care, reported that two surveyors have completed their federal training.

Kris Chiles, Behavioral Health & Consumer Services, in preparation for a hearing in August regarding a cosmetologist probationary license offer, had to obtain certified records and noted that the cost of certified records has increased significantly.

Medical Nutrition Therapist license renewal notices will be sent to licensees in August using a postcard size notice for cost efficiency. This is the first time the LU has used smaller sized license renewal notices.

Diane Kvasnicka, Children's Services Licensing, conveyed that CMS grant funds are available for initiating background checks in every state for staff in long term care facilities. Child care programs may also be included in this funding program in the future.

Program staff are working on Proof of Liability Insurance for all providers.